

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-05 IO-13 AID-05 /094 W
-----031193 241340Z /43

R 240910Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8458
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1209

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM SREF PINS LA TH
SUBJECT: LPDR ATTITUDE TOWARD WOULD-BE REFUGEES

1. A GENERALLY RELIABLE SOURCE TOLD US AUGUST 22 THAT TWENTY CADRE EMPLOYED AT VIENTIANE'S SISAVANGVONG HOSPITAL (HOSPITAL 103) ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE TO THAILAND OVER THE WEEKEND (AUGUST 20-21) BUT WERE DISCOVERED EN ROUTE TO THE LAO RIVER BANK AND ARRESTED. KONE LAO, DRIVER OF THE ESCAPE VEHICLE, ESCAPED. (PERSONS FAMILIAR WITH THE INCIDENT REPORTEDLY CLAIM THAT THE DRIVER ACTUALLY WAS A GOVERNMENT INFORMER.)

2. THE SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 23 TWO TRUCKLOADS OF RESIDENTS OF A VILLAGE A FEW KILOMETERS DOWNSTREAM FROM THA DEUA WERE INTERCEPTED EN ROUTE TO A RENDEZVOUS WITH RIVER BOATMEN WHO WERE TO FERRY THEM TO THAILAND. THE WOULD-BE REFUGEES
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WERE ARRESTED AND LED AWAY IN HANDCUFFS. THE LEADER OF THE GROUP WAS ABLE TO BREAK AWAY FROM LPDR AUTHORITIES AND APPARENTLY SURVIVED SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM A SMALL DETACHMENT OF PURSUERS.

3. A RELIABLE SOURCE RESIDENT IN NYE THA DEUA-NONG KHAI AREA TOLD US THAT FOUR LAO REFUGEES SUCCESSFULLY

CROSSED THE MEKONG TO THAILAND ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST
18 UNDER A HAIL OF SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM THE LAO BANK.

4. KHAM SONEVONG, A GUARD EMPLOYED BY THE EMBASSY
SINCE MAY 1975, WAS RELIABLY REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN
ARRESTED AS HE ATTEMPTED TO CROSS THE MEKONG TO THAI-
LAND ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 20 (SEPTEL).

5. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO CONFIRM ALL
REPORTS OF LPDR FIRING ON AND ARRESTS OF WOULD-BE
REFUGEES, THERE ARE ENOUGH RELIABLE REPORTS TO INDICATE
THAT IN THE VIEW OF THE LPDR AN ATTEMPT BY A LAO TO FLEE
LAOS CONSTITUTES A POLITICAL STATEMENT OF DISLOYALTY TO
THIS REGIME WARRANTING APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT.
MCWILLIAMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: SHUM, SREF, PINS, LA, TH
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